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In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-108

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Serial No. 09/973,025

Group: 1648

Filed: October 10, 2001

Examiner: Li

For: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND

THERAPEUTIC USE

March 25, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Office Action dated February 25, 2003, the Applicants elect, with traverse, the subject matter of the Examiner's Group I, subgroup (b), for further prosecution of the above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement are requested as examination of all of the previously elected subject matter would not be an undue burden on the Examiner.

MAERTENS et al. Serial No. 09/973,025 March 25, 2003

Early and favorable action on the merits of all the previously elected subject matter is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Ву:

B. J. Sadoff

Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:lmr 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201-4714

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TED STATES PATENT AND TRADEM

In re Patent Application of

MAR 2 5 2003 MAERTENS et al.

Serial No. 09/973,025

October 10, 2001 Filed:

Title:

PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC USE

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MAR 27 2003

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RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

Correspondence Address Indication Form Attached.

Total effective claims after amendment 0 minus highest number previously paid for 20 (at least 20) = 0 x \$ 18.00	\$	0.00
Independent claims after amendment 0 minus highest number previously paid for 3 (at least 3) = 0 x \$84.00	\$	0.00
If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$280.00 (ignore improper)	\$	0.00
Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$410.00/2 months; \$930.00/3 months)	\$	0.00
Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00	\$	0.00
☐ First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$750.00) ☐ Please enter the previously unentered , filed ☐ Submission attached	\$	0.00
Subtotal	\$	0.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract Applicant claims "small entity" status. Statement filed herewith	-\$	0.00
Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00)	\$	0.00
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)	\$	0.00
Other:		0.00
TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED	\$	0.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A <u>duplicate</u> copy of this sheet is attached.

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100 BJS:lmr

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,663

Signature: